

Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

Core Team

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Advocate & SEAP Member

Angela Denning
Arizona Department of Education
Deputy Associate Superintendent

Craig Carter
Director of Special Services
Washington Elem School District

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Jan Cawthorne
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Elizabeth Conran, Chief Academic
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Sarah Gamble
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Kristen Hartsuff
Director of Special Education
Glendale Elementary School District

Lorrane McPherson
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP
Member

Heidi Sinkovic
Director of ESS, The Leona Group

Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &
SEAP Member

Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and "unlearn"
- Reflection is critical to our success

Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

Rule Committee – Core Team February 12, 2015 Communiqué

Core Team Attendees: Wendy Collison, Beth Conran, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Christopher Tiffany, Jan Cawthorne, Kris Hartsuff, Sarah Gamble

ADE Support Staff: Angela Denning, William McQueary, Lisa Aaroe, Maura Mall, Cindy Bolewski, Kacey Gregson

Meeting Location: ADE on Osborn

You've got to think about big things while you're doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.

GOAL for Today: Continue work towards completing the proposed rule on the IEP.

What we did:

- Reviewed the feedback from the ESS Inbox and discussed that only 2 comments were received. The ESS Inbox comments, like the information from other States, are split between leaving the age at 16 or move it to age 14. Discussion in Washington, DC regarding a future reauthorization circle around moving the age back to 14.
- We engaged in a rich discussion of the current ECAP requirement and how many elements are consistent with IDEA transition planning with the exception of referencing a goal for independent living (if appropriate)
- We broke into 3 groups to study the Procedural Safeguards & Confidentiality rules, regulations, documents to study and comment on information from Georgia, South Dakota, and OSEP to consider recommendations for new Rule language

What we learned.

- We learned that discussion in Washington, DC regarding a future reauthorization circles around moving the age back to 14.
- We learned that we need to introduce clarifying language in the Rules LRE section to address that LEAs must provide a continuum of placements and the IEP teams must determine appropriate placement based on the student's needs.
- We learned that the Amendment to the Family Educational rights and Privacy Act by the Uninterrupted Scholars Act May 2014, under specific conditions, allows LEAs to provide student educational records, including special education records without obtaining parental consent. LEAs may, but are not required to, release records to a Child Welfare Agency (CWA) or tribal organization authorized to access a student's case plan when such agency or organization is legally responsible, in accordance with State or tribal law, for the care and protection of the student. The information from OSEP is that this does not conflict with IDEA confidentiality.

What we accomplished.

- We finalized the proposed Rule language for LRE to be consistent with IDEA. Reference to the age of transition services was not inserted in Rule. Information about the blending of ECAP information and IEP transition plans was referred to the guidance document. The decision was unanimously approved by a show of thumbs up. ADE will pursue language change to ECAP rule.
- We finalized the proposed Rule language for Procedural Safeguards and added guidance document information.
- We finalized the proposed Rule language for Confidentiality and added guidance document information.
- We developed the content and format for the AZCASE presentation on 2/20/15. Jan Cawthorne will lead the presentation with committee members and ESS staff.
- We developed the agenda, format for the next large group meeting – February 27, 2015 from 9:30 to 12:00. RSVP to Maria.durazo@azed.gov by Feb. 20th.

Notes:

**Rule Making Core Committee
February 12, 2015 Communiqué**

Next Steps:

- The committee needs to hear the vote from the committee members who were not in attendance today.
- The committee requested feedback from Dispute Resolution to be shared at our next meeting on the work of the committee to date.
- The next meeting of the committee will be 2/27/15 starting at 8:30 am.
- The next meeting of the large group will be held at ADE on Central to get feedback on the IEP section of proposed rule on 2/27/15 9:30 am – noon.
- Committee members will bring lists of spring/summer meetings and professional gatherings at which the work of the committee can be presented and input can be gathered.

We Want to Hear from You!

- The committee is seeking input on the issue of the transition plan requirement of IDEA and the discussion of the current practice in Arizona districts. Please send your thoughts, questions or need for clarity on Least Restrictive Environment, Procedural Safeguards, or Confidentiality.
- Please send your comments to AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov . We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the website under Director's Corner at: <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/>